



U.S. Senator Ken Salazar
U.S. Senator Wayne Allard



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SENS. ALLARD & SALAZAR TO HOLD CONDUIT MEETING IN LOWER ARK. VALLEY

Washington, D.C. – United States Senators Wayne Allard and Ken Salazar will host an Arkansas Valley Conduit Forum with southeastern Colorado water users and organizations next week to further evaluate the status of the Arkansas Valley Conduit effort, address concerns about the project, and help develop a timeline for moving forward with the project. The meeting is scheduled from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm Saturday, July 16, 2005 in La Junta at the student center of Otero Junior College.

"I want to encourage everyone who has an interest in the development of the Arkansas Valley Conduit to attend this important meeting," Senator Allard said. "Three years ago, when I first introduced legislation to create the Arkansas Valley Conduit, I believed that its development would be critical to the future of the Arkansas Valley. Today, I am even more convinced that the Conduit must be built if southeastern Colorado is to continue to flourish, and it must be built without placing an unbearable financial burden on the communities involved."

"Colorado has already had a successful conduit that has been beneficial to downstream users in the Southern Water Supply Project – there is no reason we cannot have an even more successful and beneficial project here in the Arkansas Valley – one that bolsters lower Arkansas communities and ensures them a bountiful future," said Salazar. "The more groups and communities who involve themselves in these discussions the more successful this project will be. I look forward to a very productive meeting."

Senators Allard and Salazar have invited representatives of the Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District, Southeast Water Conservancy District, Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District and Rural Water Providers to give presentations on the conduit proposal. The public is encouraged to attend and listen to these presentations. There will be opportunity for questions and answers following the conclusion of the presentations.

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